(ब) और (ड) अप्रैल—फरवरी, 1992-93 के दौरान व्यापार घाटा 3504.42 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर होने का अनुमान है। यह व्यापार घाटा अप्रैल—फरवरी, 1991-92 के दौरान हुए 1637.63 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर होने का अनुमान अधिक है किन्तु अप्रैल—फरवरी, 1991-92 के दौरान हुए 1637.63 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर के व्यापार घाटे से कम है। अप्रैल—मार्च, 1992-93 के लिए व्यापार आंकड़े अभी उपलब्ध नहीं हो सके हैं।

(च) अप्रैल—दिसम्बर, 1992-93 वह नवीनतम अवधि है जिसके लिए कच्चे माल तथा तैयार उत्पादों के आयात के आंकड़े उपलब्ध हैं तथा यह आंकड़े क्रमशः 8047.54 मिलियन तथा 8582.92 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर हैं। प्रतिशतता के रूप में कुल आयातों में कच्चे माल का भाग 48.4% तथा तैयार उत्पादों का 51.6% बैठता है।

Problems over Intellectual Property Rights

28. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is regarded by the U.S. Government as one of the countries with which the U.S.A. has problems over the protection of Intellectual Property Rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Central Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) released its annual report on Foreign Trade Barriers on 31st March, 1993. The chapter on India allege; inter alia that India's intellectual property protection particularly on patents is weak, specifically with respect to non-availability of product patent protection in the areas of food, chemicals and pharmaceuticals; inadequate term of protection; and stringent compulsory licensing provisions.

Intellectual property rights issues are being negotiated in the Uruguay Round. Government have communicated to the U.S. that the Uruguay Round negotiations provide the best mechanism for resolving these issues.

Supply to Diesel to Fishing Industry by MPEDA

29. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether MPEDA is operating a scheme to supply diesel oil to fishing industry on subsidised cost in Vishakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details of this scheme;

(c) what are the names of companies which have availed of this scheme in 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(d) the extent of funds released so far;

(e) whether it is a fact that the industry has expressed dissatisfaction at the scheme; and

(f) what steps are being taken to streamline this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) MPEDA is operating a scheme to reimburse a part of the cost of diesel oil consumed by deep sea fishing vessels whose catches are exported by the owner of the vessel. The salient features of the scheme are as follows :—

1. The Scheme aims at reimbursing a part of the cost of HSD consumed by deep sea fishing vessel so as to make the effective price comparable to international price and thereby increase the capacity of Indian deep sea vessel operators to complete with its counterparts abroad in international markets.

2. The scheme has been approved to be directly linked with exports and has been put into effect from 1-1-91.

3. The assistance under the scheme will be applicable for fuel supply taken and consumed in India by deep sea fishing vessels of 20 mts. OAL, other than those vessels operated by Indian companies under Charter Policy.

4. The owners/lessee of the vessels shouud be registered with MPEDA as exporters and the vessels should also be registered with MPEDA under the MPEDA ACT & Rules.

5. A minimum of 25% of the catch of the vessels by value has to be exported by the owner/lessee.

6. The skipper of the vessel has to submit a voyage report after every voyage and the owner/lessee has to submit a quarterly return of export for every quarter.

7. The quantum of assistace would be Rs. 1600 per KL of fuel requirement assessed by the Committee specified under the scheme or Rs. 1600 KL of the fuel actually consumed by the vessel or 10% of the FOB export realisation for the catches of the vessels, whichever is least.

(c) The following companies availed assistance during 1991-92 :—

1. Surya Seafoods Pvt. Ltd., Vizag.
2. Shrimp India Ltd., Vizag.
3. Akama Marines Ltd., Vizag.
4. Yeduguri Seafoods Ltd., Vizag.
5. Seal Fisheries Ltd. Madras.
6. Coastal Trawlers Ltd., Vizag.
7. Navabharat Ferro Alloys Ltd., Vizag.
8. Pron Magnate Pvt. Ltd., Vizag.
9. Victoria Fisheries Ltd., Madras.
10. VBC Exports Ltd., Vizag.
11. G. P. Marine Products (India) Vizag.
12. Golden Ahar Ltd., Vizag.

In addition to above, the following companies also availed assistance during 1992-93 :

1. Nekkanti Seafoods Ltd., Vizag.
2. SBS Marine Exports Ltd., Vizag.
3. Yeduguri Seafoods, Vizag.
4. Souza & Lewis Fisheries (India) (P) Ltd., Mangalore.
5. Saphire Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Vizag.
6. Gautham Construction & Fisheries, Vizag.
7. Sreenivasa Enterprises Ltd., Vizag.
8. Royce Marine Products Ltd., Mangalore.
9. Gujarat Fisheries Development Corporation, Vizag.

Number of vessels that were assisted under the scheme during 1991-92 is 36 and in 1992-93 is 55.

(d) The information is as under :

1992-93—Rs. 113.88 lakhs.

1991-92—Rs. 91.265 lakhs.

(Source : MPEDA, Kochi).

(e) Yes, Sir. The industry has, inter alia, demanded the following modifications :—

1. Extension of the scheme to all deep sea fishing vessel operators, namely, not only to the vessel owners who export the vessel catch but also to vessel operators who sell their catch to seafood processors who processes and export it in the processors name or on account of merchant exporter, trading houses etc.
2. To enhance the quantum of assistance under the scheme.
3. To consider fuel for voyage from one fishing harbour to another for calculation of assistance.

(f) The basis objectives of the scheme is to make Indian seafood competitive in the international market.

Therefore the scheme is implemented as an export linked subsidy scheme. The quantum of assistance of the scheme also cannot be increased in view of the resource crunch.

In view of these factors there is presently no need to modify the scheme.

Sale of FCV Tobacco in Auction Plateforms in Andhra Pradesh

30. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity of F. C. V. tobacco sold on auction plateforms in Andhra Pradesh as on date;

(b) what is its percentage on total production and what is the unit value realisation in different areas; and

(c) what are the corresponding figures for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) A statement as Annexure is laid on the Table of the House.

[See Appendix CCXVII, ANNEXURE No. 3].

Trade Agreement with Israel

31. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Israel have agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding on trades for bringing about greater commercial bilateral interaction;

(b) if so, by when the memorandum is likely to be signed; and

(c) what are the details of the proposed Memorandum ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) India has proposed an Agreement between the two countries on Trade and Economic Corporation, a draft of which has recently been given to the Government of Israel for consideration.

Tightening of Anti-dumping Laws

32. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government proposed to tighten the anti-dumping laws to effectively counter the dumping by the foreign manufacturers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Indian Customs Tarrif Act already empowers the Government to impose anti-dumping duties in those cases in which dumped imports are found to be causing material injury to the domestic industry. Before such a duty can be imposed, an authority designated by Government has to make a finding on the existence of dumping and injury, and a causal link between the two. The Designated Authority is normally required to initiate an investigation only upon receipt of a written request, supported by evidence of dumping, injury, and a causal link between such dumped imports and the alleged injury, by or on behalf of the affected domestic industry. Government has since put in place the necessary arrangements to investigate and redress cases of injurious dumping.